

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 19

NEW YORK POST
19 May 1984

Inside report

By ROWLAND EVANS
and ROBERT NOVAK



Soviet spy base

BEFORE Moscow announced its boycott of the Olympics, White House deputy chief of staff Michael Deaver pressured the CIA and FBI into dropping objections against the Soviet Union's plan to house its athletes on a cruise ship in Long Beach harbor.

Both the CIA and the FBI feared that KGB agents would use the ship as a platform for spying on the technological heart of the U.S., especially the Silicon Valley. Moscow's intense desire to berth the vessel at Long Beach was viewed by American intelligence as the desire for month-long eavesdropping on electronic secrets.

With backing from the State Department, the security agencies fought hard against giving the Soviets permission but finally bowed to pressure from Deaver. At the time, Deaver was seeking to smooth U.S.-Soviet relations in time for the presidential election campaign. The Soviet boycott, regretted everywhere else, was quietly welcomed in the secret world of counter-intelligence.